

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-07 IO-13 CIAE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /088 W

-----012082 201821Z /46

R 201324Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5913

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

DIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, RH

SUBJ: PATRIOTIC FRONT ASSESSMENT OF RECENT MILITARY ACTIONS

IN RHODESIA

REF: (A) LUSAKA 1573; (B) LUSAKA 1584 (NOTAL)

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. THE JUNE 18, 1977 EDITION OF THE "ZIMBABWE'S PEOPLE'S VOICE" PUBLISHED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT NATIONALIST MILITARY ACTIONS INSIDE RHODESIA FROM THE THIRD WEEK OF MAY TO THE FIRST WEEK OF JUNE:

---MAY 15 ZPRA MORTAR AND ROCKET ATTACK ON GOKWE: RESULTS 28 ENEMY POLICEMEN AND SOLDIERS KILLED AND 20 SERIOUSLY INJURED; SIX TRUCKS DESTROYED.

---JUNE 3 ZIPA DESTRUCTION OF POWER PYLONS NEAR NYAWODZA AT 2100 CUTTING POWER SUPPLY TO SALISBURY AND BULAWAYO FOR TEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HOURS. (REFTEL A)

---JUNE 4/5 ATTACK ON KARIBA TOWN FROM 1730 TIL DAWN NEXT DAY IN WHICH 20 ENEMY SOLDIERS AND 9 CIVILIANS KILLED. PHYSICAL DESTRUCTION INCLUDED KARIBA COUNTRY CLUB, ARMY BARRACKS, CASSINO HOTEL AND ELECTRIC TRANSFORMERS.

---JUNE 5 GUERRILLA DESTRUCTION OF RAILWAY BRIDGE BETWEEN GATOOMA AND QUE QUE DERAILING FREIGHT TRAIN AND REQUIRING TWO

DAYS FOR REPAIRS. (REFTEL B).

---JUNE 6 ZIPA AMBUSH AT UNDESIGNATED LOCATION WHICH RESULTED
IN CALL FOR AIR SUPPORT, A FRENCH-BUILT HELICOPTER RESPONDED
WHICH WAS SHOT DOWN KILLING ITS CREW OF TWO.

---JUNE 7 SABOTAGE OF RAIL LINE AT LUVEVE, ELEVEN KILOMETERS
FROM THE CENTER OF BULAWAYO, DERAILING GOODS TRAIN.

END UNCLASSIFIED

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COMMENT: IN THE CASE OF THE TWO INCIDENTS ABOVE WHICH HAVE
BEEN REPORTED PUBLICLY FROM RHODESIA (REFTELS) THE RHODESIAN
VERSION OF THE EVENT VARIES MARKEDLY FROM THE NATIONALIST
ASSESSMENT. SINCE THE NUMBER OF GUERRILLA INCIDENTS HAS BEEN
INCREASING AND THE RHODESIAN MEDIA IS STRICTLY CONTROLLED, IT
COULD BE THAT NATIONALISTS' CLAIMS OF CASUALTIES AND DAMAGES
MAY BE CLOSER TO ACTUALITY THAN THE OFFICIAL RHODESIAN ACCOUNTS.
CLINGERMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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